9 Need for registering *poramboke* and *puduval* lands in the names of Parayas.

Mr. Kandan Kumaran (Member, Nominated) said that, though the subject had been repeatedly brought up in several sessions of the Assembly, no real benefits had so far accrued to the community in getting lands registered. It was due to the unsympathetic treatment accorded to them by the subordinate officers of the Revenue Department, especially the *pakuthi* subordinates who did not allow the Parayas even to approach the *pakuthi* cutcherries. More than 700 applications had been submitted by Parayas for the registry of lands in the Chengannur, Thiruvalla, Mavelikara, Changanacherry, Kunnathur and other taluks, but none of them was favourably disposed of. The lands applied for by the Parayas were being subsequently registered in the names of other people and the prior applicants used to get endorsements to the effect that the lands applied for were not available for registry. The Member had applied for the registry of 28 cents of land in Survey No. 355/8 in the Thiruvalla *pakuthi* for erecting a temple for the use of the community but his request was not granted. There were many tracts unfit for forest conservancy in several of the proposed Reserves, such as the Thollayirakuzhimannu in the Valiakavu Reserve, Kalappakkottumannu and Srampilmannu in the Alapra Reserve, Aruvelikattumannu and Anakuzhimannu in the Madamon Reserve and several such blocks in the Kodumon Reserve. The above tracts might be assigned in the names of Parayas.

He next prayed that the Government might be pleased to devise means by which the Parayas might be helped through Co-operative Societies.

Lastly, the Member requested that the lands on both sides of the road leading from the Manimala Reserve to Rani-Perumpuzha Kadavu, might be registered in the names of Parayas as prayed for by them at the 12th and 13th sessions of the Assembly.

Dewan's reply.—Noted for consideration.

10. Difficulties experienced by converts from depressed classes to Christianity in the matter of *puduval* registry.

Mr. Abraham Isaac (Member, Nominated) said that G. O. No. 2290, dated 23rd April 1917, regarding the grant of *pandaravagai tharisu* lands to the members of the depressed classes, was a real boon to them. But the applications made by the members of his community in pursuance of the above G. O. had not met with favourable results because of the unsympathetic attitude of the officers of the Revenue Department. Not an inch of wet land had so far been registered in their names. The Member said that the truth of his statement would be borne out if a list was called for as to the number of applications received in each taluk since the issue of the G. O., the extent of the lands applied for, the number of applications granted, the area assigned in pursuance of the above applications, the number of applications rejected and the reasons for rejecting them.

The Member prayed that the *tharisu*, *poramboke* and *thanathuchitta* lands lying adjacent to towns, etc., referred to in the G. O., and also other lands named below be ordered to be registered to them, *viz*, Survey Nos. 369/1 and 379/1 known as Kanakapalam in the Erumeli *pakuthi*, Survey No. 779/1 in the Ranni *pakuthi*, the available lands in the Valiakavu, Alapra, Chethacal, Karinkulam, Noorvakad and other reserves, Kalaketti forests and adjoining *tharisu* lands in the Meenachil taluk and the old road at the 5th mile and between the 13th and 15th miles of the Kottayam-Peermade road. He also requested that extensive coupes in the Nedumangad taluk, the tree growth on which was being removed by the Forest Department, might be registered in their names. They were often mercilessly turned out from their dwellings on the ground that they had encroached upon *porambokes* and grazing grounds, though such *porambokes* as were not essential for Government purposes might be registered in the names of the occupants. The following tracts could thus be assigned, *viz.*, 91 acres in Survey Nos. 519/1, 520/1 and 521/1 in the Vadayar *pakuthi*, Vaikam taluk, 100 acres in Survey Nos. 707/1 and 702/1 in the same *pakuthi*, certain lands near Illikotta, 218 acres in Survey Nos. 23/3 A and 23/1, in the Manchadikara *pakuthi*, Changanacherry taluk and 30 acres in Survey No. 499/1 in the Perur *pakuthi*, Ettumanur taluk.

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The Member next prayed for the registry of the following *kari* lands in the names of converts from depressed classes, namely, the *kari* lands on the north-eastern side of the Vembanad lake ; the lands lying close to the bank from Alleppey to Thanneermukkam in the Shertalay taluk ; 453 acres included in Survey No. 30/30 in Prakkattu *pakuthi* and similar other lands in the Ambalapuzha *pakuthi* and the several *kari* lands in the Vaikam, Vechoor, Kaipuzha and Kaduthurithi *pakuthies*. The Ennakkachira in the Manchadikkara *pakuthi* and Kullanchirachal in the Vadayar *pakuthi* should also be similarly registered to his people.

In conclusion, the Member prayed that one respectable gentleman with sympathy towards the backward classes be specially appointed in each Revenue Division to attend to the registry of lands in the names of depressed classes in pursuance of the new G. O. and to render such other help to them as was possible and that the Government should periodically obtain reports from those officers and see for themselves what progress was being made.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's representation will be carefully considered. Special reports will be called for about the progress in registry.

11. Desirability of issuing agricultural loans to the Cardamom ryots on a nominal interest.

Mr. T. K. Alagiri Raja (Member, Devicolam Taluk) spoke at length about the heavy indebtedness of the cardamom ryots owing to the failure of crops and the enhancement of *tharavila* to Rs. 25 per acre. It was, as a result of frequent representations and conferences, that the rules dated the 28th Karkadakom 1080 were passed regarding cardamom lands. Against the spirit of those rules, *tharavila* was raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 per acre in 1088. The increased rate was made applicable even to the lands applied for from 1081 to 1087, for the mere reason that *pattas* for those lands were granted only subsequent to 1087. The penal assessment realized was not refunded, though the assessment was subsequently cancelled. The realization of *tharavila* in 9 instalments did not benefit many who under the old system had already paid up two or three instalments. The appeals and petitions to the Government and the Commissioner, Devicolam, and the representations at the Assembly during the past four years did not bring about any redress of their grievances. The cardamom cultivators had consequently become heavily involved in debt. They were not able even to meet the cost of cultivation and hence they allowed their lands to lie waste. To remedy such a state of things, the Member suggested—

(1) that the Government should grant loans to the cardamom ryots at low rates of interest and realise the same from the produce of their lands in the course of 10 years as was done in British India; and

(2) that the provisions of the Cardamom Rules as they were promulgated on the 28th Karkadakam 1080 should be rigidly enforced, more especially with reference to matters relating to the cultivation of grass lands, grazing of cattle, felling of trees for the improvement of cardamom cultivation and for house-building, the rates of *tharavila*, payment of kist, shooting of destructive animals and the jurisdiction of the Forest Department in cardamom areas.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

12. Desirability of partitioning the Peermade Taluk into two taluks with Kanjirapalli as the Head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Thomman Dominic (Member, Peermade Taluk) said that the subject had been brought up by the Peermade Member at the last session of the Assembly and that, in spite of the strong recommendation of the Commissioner, Devicolam, the partition had not been sanctioned by Government. The area of the Peermade taluk was 660 sq. miles the whole of which had been surveyed and comparatively developed. Hundreds of applications for registry of *puduval* lands were pending disposal for a long time. Very little progress was made in the registry of Sirkar Devaswom lands. The work of the Peermade Tahsildar was more than what one officer

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